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AGAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS

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YMCA

Town 'blind-sided' by Y's plans to close

By Michael J. Ballway
mballway@turley.com

Less than a year and a half after opening to great fanfare, the Agawam YMCA abruptly announced this week that it will close in two months' time.

Mayor Richard Cohen and City Councilor Joseph Mineo, both members of the advisory board at the Agawam YMCA Wellness and Program Family Center, said they were "blindsided" when they learned about the closure earlier this month.

"They didn't even give this thing a chance," said Mineo, who took office last month as the new chairman of the advisory board. "If they would've been more transparent in letting us know, we maybe could have done some fundraising, we could have done some advertising, we could have done something to help them. People were willing to open up their pocketbooks. They said it today."

Between 30 and 40 Agawam YMCA members attended the advisory board meeting on March 22 to protest the closure, Mineo said. Only a few people were aware of the decision before it was publicly announced later on Tuesday.

The decision to close the Agawam Y was made by the board of directors at its parent organization, the YMCA of Greater Springfield, and Scott Berg, president and CEO of the Springfield Y. Mineo said the local board in Agawam was presented with the decision already made.

"I certainly understand the emotions," Berg said this week. "We just have not grown the membership to a sustainable level. We're around 550. We need 750."

The 550 household memberships represent about 1,000 individuals, Berg said. At an advisory board meeting in February, YMCA Chief Operating Officer Dexter Johnson had said the Agawam Y finished last year with 460 memberships, and set the goal of raising membership levels to 600 by June.

In 17 months of operation so far, the Agawam Y never broke even financially. Between startup costs and operating losses, the Agawam branch was a \$440,000 drain on the Greater Springfield YMCA over the past two years,

YMCA | page 8



After the HUNT

Madelyn Vosburgh, 4, and Tyler Gamache, 4, sit on the ground to open Easter eggs they collected at the annual Agawam Lions Club egg hunt at School Street Park last Saturday. More photos on page 12. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MIKE LYDICK

ROBERTA DOERING



Roberta Doering addresses students during the June 2014 DARE graduation at the middle school. FILE PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

Advocate for education, longest-serving school board member won't be forgotten

By Mike Lydick
aan@turley.com

Every morning when staff and students enter the town's middle school, they pass by a smiling portrait of Roberta G. Doering — the woman for whom the school was renamed in 2010, to honor her longtime commitment to students and public education in Agawam.

That commitment began in 1970 and continued up until her death last Sunday at 91. Doering was a member of the School

Committee for 46 consecutive years, the longest tenure not only in Agawam but also in Massachusetts.

She was remembered by her colleagues at Tuesday night's School Committee meeting. The desk where she ordinarily sat, on the stage in the auditorium of the school that bears her name, was draped in black bunting, with fresh flowers placed on top.

Doering, who was re-elected

DOERING | page 5

CITY COUNCIL

Golf support rides on spring

Council wants more repayment from municipal links

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

Support for the Agawam Municipal Golf Course may continue to wane if the golf course does not have a good spring and turn a profit.

City Councilors clashed Monday night over more transfers needed to fund the golf course for the remainder of the fiscal year instead of seeing the funds moved back to the town's general fund.

By a 7-3 vote, the council approved sending about \$62,000 from a golf earnings account to various operating accounts for the course. By statute, the course is only allowed to spend money that has been appropriated for its budget. Money the course takes in cannot be spent without approval, said Councilor Christopher Johnson.

Some on the council continue to criticize the golf course's management over lost bills and the fact that the town budget has

been paid back only a fraction of the nearly \$400,000 in taxpayer subsidies given over the past three years for budget shortfalls and capital expenses, including a new lawn mower and golf carts.

The \$62,000 transfer will be used to purchase food and pay for seasonal personnel needed to open up the golf course this week for spring business.

That leaves about \$102,000 left in the retained earnings from the 2015 season. With a second resolution, only \$25,000 of that amount was returned to the town's general fund, while \$77,000 will remain in the retained earnings account.

"I understand leaving the course with some money in the account," said Councilor Gina Letellier. "But I wish there was more of a 50-50 split of the money."

Both Letellier and Johnson have blamed the losses the course

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Parish Cupboard seeking donations

WEST SPRINGFIELD — The Parish Cupboard, a food pantry serving Agawam and West Springfield, recently announced its “Cash for the Cupboard” campaign in March and April to raise funds for its operations.

The pantry is located at 1023 Main St., West Springfield, just off Memorial Avenue. It has four employees, 18-20 weekly volunteers and an active board of directors.

The Parish Cupboard de-

pends entirely on financial gifts and food donations for its mission to help the homeless, impoverished, unemployed and welfare recipients in the two towns. Its efforts include the Emergency Food Program, which provided a monthly food allotment to 2,112 households in the two towns in 2015, helping 1,920 children and 708 senior citizens. Almost 500 of last year’s recipients were first-time participants in the program. The Parish Cupboard also runs a Hot

Lunch Program, serving an average of 30 people a day in its 15-seat dining room. Anyone can come; in 2015, the pantry served 7,200 meals.

The pantry is looking for businesses, churches, schools, civic groups and individuals in Agawam and West Springfield to help with donations to help meet its payroll, utilities, expenses and insurance costs, as well as food donations. The pantry is a 501(c)3 nonprofit.

Member sought for CPA Committee

James Cichetti, City Council president, has announced that effective April 30, there will be an opening for one

position on the Agawam Community Preservation Act Committee. Interested parties should contact Bar-

bara Bard in the City Council office at 413-726-9716, or email bbard@agawam.ma.us as soon as possible.



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Vendors sought for Fish & Game April 9 tag sale

Spaces are still available for the Rent-a-Space Tag Sale sponsored by the West Springfield Fish and Game Club, 329 Garden St., Feeding Hills. It will take place Saturday, April 9. A 12-by-12-foot

space is available for \$20, or two for \$30. Spaces must be reserved in advance.

For more information, contact Liz at 860-798-1013, Randy at 413-846-3433, or the club at 413-786-5925.

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St. David’s Episcopal Church

699 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030

Holy Week and Easter Services

Sunday, March 20th
Palm Sunday Services:
8:00 a.m. Traditional Service with Holy Communion and Palms
10:00 a.m. Contemporary Service with Holy Communion and Palms

Thursday, March 24th
Maundy Thursday Service
7:00 p.m. with Holy Communion

Friday, March 25th
Children’s Easter Activities
9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. includes: Children’s Stations of the Cross followed by a Children’s Easter egg hunt
Other Good Friday Offerings:
6:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross
7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service

Saturday, March 26th
Holy Saturday Prayer Vigil
10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. in our community room

Easter Sunday Services, March 27th
8:00 a.m. Traditional Holy Communion Service
10:00 a.m. Contemporary Holy Communion Service
With children’s education and nursery care
Join us for the 1st time or if already a member, bring a friend!

COMMUNITY DINNERS
April 4th Roast Turkey Dinner ~ \$10 • May 2nd Pork Roast Dinner ~ \$12
June 6th Chicken Barbeque ~ \$10
All dinners include: Main meal, Vegetable, Salad, Bread/Rolls, Dessert, Drinks
Children ages 5-12 ~ \$5 • Children under 5 ~ Free
For reservations please call 413-786-6133



Now Welcoming New Patients



Jeanne Johnson, MD is pleased to welcome new primary care patients to the Feeding Hills Office, located at 1158 Springfield Street.

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JEANNE JOHNSON, MD

Historical groups, re-enactors discuss Battle of Gettysburg

The Agawam Historical Association hosted the Ramapogue Historical Society of West Springfield on Wednesday, March 16. Elliot Levy and Andy Phillips from the 9th Massachusetts Light Artillery, a Civil War re-enactor group, presented an educational program. Portraying Captain John Bigelow and his bugler, Charles Reed, they shared the experiences of soldiers during the Battle of Gettysburg.

The Agawam Historical Association welcomes new members. For more information, call Anne at 413-786-3031.



(top left) Marilyn Murray, president of the Ramapogue Historical Society, addresses guests at a recent joint meeting with the Agawam Historical Society. SUBMITTED PHOTOS BY GERALDINE SCHILLING-NORDAL

(top right) Elliot Levy portrays Captain John Bigelow.

(left) Andy Phillips portrays Charles Reed, the bugler.

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Marilyn Curry, Agawam Historical Society president, speaks at the March 16 meeting and educational program.

Chamber lunch to discuss solar energy

The West of the River Chamber of Commerce will host a multi-chamber "Lunch and Learn" event from noon to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, April 14.

There is a \$35 fee for the event, which will take place at Crestview Country Club, 281 Shoemaker Lane, Agawam. Participants will enjoy a buffet lunch while

networking with fellow chamber members. The topic of discussion will be solar energy, and the economic benefits for businesses that install solar in Massachusetts.

For more information, contact the chamber office at 413-426-3880 or email info@westoftheriverchamber.com.

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

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Memorabilia sought for Big E exhibit

The Agawam Historical and Firehouse Museum is preparing an exhibit to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Eastern States Exhibition. Anyone with memorabilia they would like to include in this exhibit is asked to call Anne Liptak at 413-786-3031.

The museum, includ-

ing this special exhibit, will open for the season from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, April 24. The museum, at 35 Elm St., Agawam, houses a collection of artifacts showcasing the town's history. For more information, visit www.agawamhistoricalassoc.webs.com or follow it on Facebook.

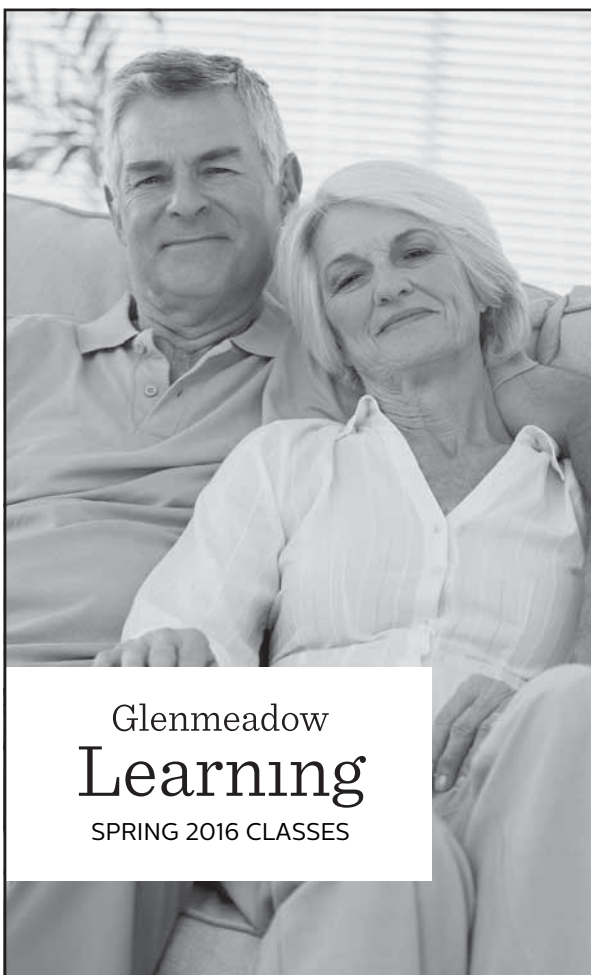
Red Cross to hold blood drives

The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive from 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday, April 1, at Agawam High School, 760 Cooper St., and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, April 3, at Six Flags New England's Human Resources Center, 1756 Main St., Agawam.

The American Red Cross encourages eligible donors to give blood during National Volunteer Month

this April and make a difference in the lives of patients in need. Volunteer donors are the only source of blood products for those in need of transfusions. Donors of all blood types are needed.

To make an appointment to donate blood, download the free Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit redcrossblood.org or call 800-733-2767.



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Informed Giving: A Look at Philanthropy's Role in Estate Planning

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Longmeadow Country Club
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Opinion

OUR VIEW

The legacy of half a century of service

When a community loses an administrator or politician of such a long tenure as Roberta Doering, it can be hard to find the appropriate way to memorialize her and keep her name alive. Fortunately for Agawam, the School Committee took care of that detail half a decade ago, renaming Agawam Middle School the Doering School.

At the start of this school year, the Agawam Advertiser News ran a story about the namesakes for the five schools in town named after people — James Clark, Clifford Granger, Benjamin Phelps, John Robinson and Roberta Doering. Robinson, of course, was an indirect honoree, as the school is actually named after the adjacent state park, which is named after the industrialist who donated the land. Phelps was a school superintendent who was honored after death; Clark was a superintendent honored shortly after his retirement. Granger was a School Committee chairman who had died a few years before the new school in Feeding Hills Center was built. Of the five, only Roberta Doering remained an active contributor in a school system that included a school named after her.

Every time she walked into that building — for School Committee meetings twice a month, DARE graduations twice a year, innumerable other school events — she must have passed her own name a dozen times. Not even the school principal gets to put her name in so many places. There's a Doering Family Carnival, a Doering PTO, and every fifth- and sixth-grader in town is a Doering student.

But listening to her colleagues' words this week, it's clear that her legacy is something even more than the name in big letters on a dedication plaque, or a school newsletter, or a class T-shirt. In 47 years on the School Committee, she touched so many lives.

Like William Sapelli, who received his high school diploma from Roberta Doering — then was hired as principal, assistant superintendent and finally superintendent of schools by her board. Her influence lives on through the administrators that she helped hire over the past 47 years — and the administrators, teachers and staff that those administrators hired.

Like the current members of the School Committee, some of whom are relative newcomers and some of whom have served several terms, but all of whom, in their first years in office, learned from Roberta Doering, the dean of the committee. Her influence lives on through her colleagues, who looked to her first as an example.

Like five decades' worth of Agawam schoolchildren, including the ones from Sapelli's generation, who met Doering at graduation, then saw her on the ballot every two years for the next half-century, then raised children who attended schools where Doering had helped shape the policies and hire the administrators, then saw their grandchildren enroll in a school building bearing her name. Her influence lives on through the schoolchildren, graduates and parents of Agawam, whose lives have all — whether they know it or not — been touched by this remarkable woman.

What do you think? Send your letter to the editor to aan@turley.com.

YESTERDAY'S HOMETOWN NEWS

The '61s' 55th reunion

Gary Janulewicz of the class of '61 told me a few weeks ago that his class reunion committee was going to have a meeting at our library during school vacation. Armed with a '61 Sachem, I got there in the Peirce Room before the committee members. Judy (Schinelli) Serra came in. Surely you recognize her name if you read our stories about the Velveteens. Her late husband, Art, helped tremendously when AHS began boys soccer in the fall of 1968. He was the guest speaker at the first-ever soccer banquet. Years ago, Judy worked at the office of Warren F. Hoyer and I had to pay her for the roofing shingles I purchased.

Joyce (Jozefiak) Buell came in and I quickly found out that she lived on Simpson Circle when she was in high school. Her house (in '61) is about 1/5 of a mile through the woods from mine. Her husband Greg was also a '61. He played guitar in the Monty and the Specialties band back in the '50s and '60s. Carl Montagna '60 has promised to meet me down in Rhode Island to show me his scrapbook. He was Monty.

Mary (Haffler) Martin brought a tape of oldies. I told her classmates that Mary has a record that may never be broken. She had three sons who played on the 1986 boys Western Mass. championship soccer team. The Nacewitz triplets may have done the same in football, but as managers. That was in the mid '60s. Mary's husband, George ("Red") was also a '61.

Louise (LaFleur) Strong told me she is remodeling her home and taking care of a Yorkshire terrier and a bichon. Three years ago she really enjoyed a month in Arizona.

Vivian (Faye) Govni told me she taught for 25 years at the Doering School and enjoyed every minute of it. She and her husband Ed '57 have two daughters and four grandchildren who all live close by.

The '61s had some pretty good gymnasts



Walt Willard

in the annual gym show. Three I remember were Ray Milici, Ralph Haseltine and Terry Prefontaine. Terry came in second in the voting for best athlete, even though he did not play a sport at AHS.

Three of my Monroe Street neighbors were '61s Linnea and Dianne Mabb, and Bruce Wein. Dianne was voted class lady, best actress and girl most likely to succeed by her classmates. Bruce, voted biggest boy tease, became a lawyer and used to own a cottage on Goose Pond up in Lee. In '61 I used to watch his brother, Alan, after school until another family member got home. That was my first job. Don't remember my salary. Huge, no doubt.

Roy Benjamin was voted best athlete and class chatterbox. Not long ago his granddaughter Brittany LaFlamme was one of the best gymnasts in Western Mass. Roy married Virginia Burton '62 and sometimes they get breakfast at McDonald's.

A quick look through the '61 Sachem got me some good memories — Gene Mutti on the Chriscola Bears, Sandy (Ianello) LaFond at the '60s' 50th, Tom Panke having breakfast with me and coach Ray Weiner a couple of years ago, Claudia Guidetti taking out an ad in our '63 reunion book, Carol (Crowley) Slate coaching a girls soccer team back in the early

'70s, Gail Cavicchi's family store (the Carol Jane Shoppe), and giving David Taylor a haircut in my UMass dorm in 1965.

Call Mary Martin at 413-789-2857 for reunion information or go online and email questions, etc., to mar2421@comcast.net. The scheduled date is Saturday, Sept. 24.

Walt Willard went to AHS and taught math there for 16 years. He can be reached at 413-786-7924. Call him. Walt loves your feedback and any and all information or tidbits you can offer.



Claudia Guidetti



Ray Milici

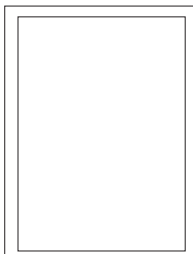
FAITH MATTERS

The reason for Easter

"Grace and peace to you from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father." (Galatians 1:3-4, NIV)

As we prepare ourselves for one of the most significant holy days in the Christian faith, it is critical to understand what happened on that day and how it still affects humanity 2,000 years later. An understanding of the heart and will of God gives us a glimpse into the love, grace, mercy and justice that motivated God to clothe himself in flesh and enter time and space. It is God's will that no one should spend eternity apart from a loving God, so He made a way for every man, woman, boy and girl to be redeemed from the dominion of darkness. Adam and Eve's sin plunged humanity into the dark kingdom of sin and we are all sinners in need of a savior. God could have left us there to die in our sins and have no hope of a future; but He chose a different course of action to rescue us from the doom of a God-less eternity, because of the great love He has for you and me. He takes no delight in the death of a person who rejects the gift of His grace and mercy. His heart is broken.

Why would God's heart be broken? He clothed himself in flesh, lived a life without sin, and sacrificed himself on a cruel Roman cross to pay the penalty for all mankind's sin. This act of substituting himself for everyone who



Rev. Tim Reed

has ever sinned fulfilled the justice of God and expresses His great mercy: "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 6:23, NIV). Jesus willingly gave himself over to death for our sins. You and I, along with the entire world, are unable to stand before the holy God who created heaven and earth in our own righteousness. We may be good people, but we are not holy and perfect. But God in His great mercy and abundant grace washes us in the precious blood of His one and only Son Jesus Christ, and we are made holy and continue to be made holy as we live out our life here on Earth.

When a person humbly accepts the gift of God's grace, there is a remarkable transformation that takes place inwardly and outwardly. God declares you are no longer under the judgment of the law for Jesus has paid your penalty, and people see someone who once was enslaved, walking in freedom with joy in his or her heart.

So, as you prepare for Easter, resurrection Sunday, remember it is all about the love God poured out on the cross with His precious blood, and the empty tomb that vanquished death, hell and the grave. May faith arise in your soul!

The Rev. Tim Reed is executive pastor at Bethany Assembly of God on Main Street in Agawam.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

must include a name, address, and daytime telephone number for author verification purposes. We do not publish anonymous letters. All letters are subject to editing for content and space. The deadline is Monday at Noon. Please send letters to *Agawam Advertiser News*, Letters to the Editor, Attn: Teri Machia, 380 Union Street, Suite 52; West Springfield, MA 01089 or e-mail aan@turley.com.



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‘Plan your own day’ in NYC in May

The Agawam Cultural Council is sponsoring a “plan your own day” bus trip to New York City Saturday, May 7. Activities such as museum and gallery exhibits, theater and music performances, street festivals and shopping are available to those going on the trip. A member of the council, acting as “leader” on each bus, will be available to help with information and suggestions along the way.

The buses are scheduled to make five stops in Manhattan — the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Rockefeller

Center/Radio City, Times Square/TKTS, 34th Street (Macy’s), and the South Street Seaport. Riders may elect to get off at any of these scheduled stops.

Buses will depart at 7 p.m. from the rear parking lot at the Roberta G. Doering School, formerly known as the Agawam Middle School, 68 Main St. Arrival time is no later than 6:45 a.m. A map to the location is available by checking “Bus Trips” at www.agawamcc.org.

Tickets are available now. The price is \$40 per person. This is a very popu-

lar trip and seating is limited to 108, on a first-come basis. Tickets are assigned only as payments arrive and cannot be reserved by phone. Ticket availability is also updated at www.agawamcc.org.

The bus will leave New York City at 6:30 p.m. and be back in Agawam between 9:30 and 10 p.m.

For information not found on the website, call 413-789-1201. No reservations are accepted at that number. To secure seats, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope with a check made out to “Agawam Cul-

tural Council” to Agawam Cultural Council, 153 Anthony St., Agawam, MA 01001.

The Agawam Cultural Council is an all-volunteer local partner of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency that provides part of its funding. The Agawam Cultural Council is charged with bringing engaging, entertaining, and educational events and opportunities in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences, to children and adults from Agawam and the surrounding communities.

Nancy and Helga return to library with tips to reduce trash footprint

The Agawam Public Library will host a recycling program titled “Trash Talkin’ With Nancy (and Helga)” — Community Based Solutions to Reducing Our Trash Footprint and Keeping Our Town Clean” at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 12.

Attendees will discover how simple actions decrease waste that builds up in landfills, incinerators, rivers and oceans, and will learn why these solutions

not only help humans but other animals and their habitats as well.

Some simple suggestions for using resources wisely include using cloth napkins, real plates and silverware, bringing your own utensils when eating out, and gift-wrapping by using a pillowcase, towel or simply hiding the gift.

Nancy Bobskill is a former teacher at Agawam High School and is an environmental blogger. For

more information, visit her blog at www.helgazerowaste.blogspot.com.

This event is sponsored by the Agawam Center Library Association and the Agawam DPW. To register, call 413-789-1550, ext. 4, or visit www.agawamlibrary.org. One free kitchen compost bucket will be available to the first 25 people (one per household) that sign up and attend this event.

The library is at 750 Cooper St., Agawam.

Adult coloring at library is back

The Agawam Public Library will host “Coloring for Grown-Ups” Thursday, April 21, at 6:30 p.m. The library invites area adults to relive the happy times of getting a new box of crayons with the sharpener and opening the pristine cover a new coloring book. All coloring pages and supplies will be provided.

To register for this event, which is sponsored by the Agawam Center Library Association, call 413-789-1550, ext. 4, or visit www.agawamlibrary.org.

Obituaries

Agawam Advertiser News OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$75, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

DEATH NOTICES

Bradford, Jonathan S.
Died March 17
Funeral March 23
Agawam Funeral Home, Inc.

Cahill, Lillian H.
Died March 15
Private funeral
Barry J. Farrell Funeral Home
Holyoke

Christopher, Lucy
Died March 14
Funeral March 18
Toomey-O’Brien Funeral Home
West Springfield

Ghidoni, Ann P.
Died March 19
Private funeral
Colonial Forastiere Funeral Home
Agawam

DOERING ■ from page 1

to her 23rd term on the school board last November, was an active member of the committee until her death. The last meeting she attended was Feb. 23.

Mayor Richard Cohen, who serves as chairman of the committee, said Doering’s “elegant and intellectual” service to Agawam greatly benefited the academic growth of Agawam students.

“I will miss her as a friend and colleague,” he said. “She will be sadly missed by all who knew her.”

Anthony Bonavita said “I don’t think she will ever be forgotten in Agawam.” Added Shelley Reed — who brought the flowers and who said she was “crushed” when learning of Doering’s death — “She taught me a lot.”

Wendy Rua called Doering a “pioneer” in public education advocacy who encouraged her involvement in the Massachusetts Association of School Committees.

“I respected her and learned from her,” said Rua. “I will hear her voice encouraging me for many years.”

Diane Juzba recalled that Doering always took great pleasure in interacting with students and attended as many school events as she could.

“Roberta always made it a point to congratulate students on their accomplishments and she always complimented teachers for helping students succeed,” Juzba said. “She was very proud of our students.”

Juzba added that Doering was a mentor to her,



A past president and lifetime member of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, Roberta Doering, seated at far left, never failed to attend the organization annual conferences. Sitting at the table with Doering in this photo taken at last year’s fall conference are, from left, School Committee members Carmineo Mineo, Shelley Reed and Wendy Rua, with her husband, Mario. Standing are Rosemary Sandlin, a former Agawam School Committee member and also a past president of MASC, and Agawam School Superintendent William Sapelli. SUBMITTED PHOTO

In 2010, this plaque was placed in the main hallway of the middle school after it was renamed the Roberta G. Doering Middle School in honor of Doering’s more than 40 years of service on Agawam School Committee. FILE PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

both personally and professionally, encouraging Juzba to continue her education.

“On days I felt like giving up, she was my biggest cheerleader and kept me pointed in the right direction,” Juzba said. “She came to my graduation when I earned my master’s degree. It’s a memory I will treasure.”

While Doering spent much of her time and energy as a local School Committee member, her advocacy for public education also extended to the state and national levels. Doering served a one-year term as president of MASC in 1986-

87. A lifetime member, she continued to attend the organization’s meetings, most recently the annual conference last November.

Following her service as president in Massachusetts, Doering later represented school board members across the country as president of the National School Board Association. Doering was president of the Virginia-based organization from 1995 to 1996.

Patricia Correia, a former School Committee member in Springfield and now a field director with MASC, had known Doering

since 1976. She said Doering was “a tireless advocate” for children and public education.

“Roberta didn’t have any children of her own, so she made all children her own and tried to help them,” added Correia.

Middle school a lasting legacy

Doering’s most enduring legacy may well be the school named after her. Sue Federico, the school’s principal, said Doering will be remembered with a moment of silence. She added that she plans to discuss with the

school’s PTO the possibility of planting a tree or placing a bench in front of the school to honor Doering.

“We will miss her terribly,” added Federico. “She has always been a great supporter of the students in our school and in the district.”

School Superintendent William Sapelli is perhaps one of the few individuals in administration who has known Doering since her first days on the School Committee. His relationship with Doering began in 1970 when he was a student at Agawam High School and she was a newly elected member of the committee.

“I fondly remember her assisting with the distribution of diplomas to me and my fellow 1972 senior classmates,” he recalled.

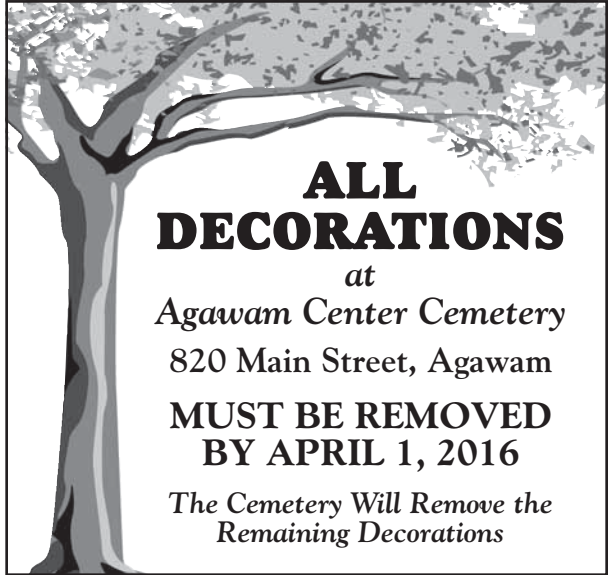
Doering helped to elevate Sapelli from classroom teacher in Agawam to school administrator when she served on the selection committee that appointed him principal of Robinson Park Elementary School in 1990. She also was involved

in his appointment as assistant superintendent in 2002 and as superintendent a decade later.

“I’ve known Mrs. Doering for over 45 years and have come to admire her dedication, commitment, and professionalism to public education,” said Sapelli. “Her thoughtful decisions and her calm, reassuring manner — together with her ability to listen — were qualities that made her an outstanding leader. She was a moral compass and a true lady who will be forever in our hearts and minds.”

Juzba said she will miss Doering’s many admirable qualities. “It’s hard to say goodbye,” she said.

In addition to serving on the School Committee, Doering also served on the executive boards of the YMCA, Springfield Library Association, and the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association. Doering, who was predeceased by her husband, Dr. James Doering, is survived by several nieces.



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Docket No. HD16C0054CA
In the matter of: Sean Christopher O'Hagan DeMartino
Of: Agawam, MA
NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME**

To all persons interested in petition described:

A petition has been presented by **Sean C O'Hagan DeMartino** requesting that: **Sean Christopher O'Hagan DeMartino** be allowed to change his/her/their name as follows: **Sean Christopher DeMartino**

If you desire to object thereto, you or your attorney must file a written appearance in said Court at: Springfield on or before ten o'clock in the morning (10:00 a.m.) on: 04/14/2016.

WITNESS, Hon. **Anne M Geoffrion**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: March 17, 2016
Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate

3/24/16

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

POLICE LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 325 calls for service from March 14 to March 20. The department recorded eight arrests in its public log. Those arrested will appear at a future date in Westfield District Court and are innocent until proven guilty.

Wednesday, March 16

Richard Maclelland, 25, of 67 Converse St., Longmeadow, was arrested on a charge of disorderly conduct.

Thomas J. Matroni, 23, of 819 S. West St., Feeding Hills, was arrested on a default warrant.

Lori Beneski, 41, of 1640 Hill St., Suffield, Conn., was arrested on charges of motor vehicle lights violation, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, failure to stop for police, and operating under the influence of drugs second offense.

HOW TO SUBMIT LEGAL NOTICES

All legal notices to be published in the *Agawam Advertiser News* should be sent directly to klanier@turley.com. Karen Lanier processes all legals for this newspaper and can answer all of your questions regarding these notices. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Karen directly at 413-283-8393 x235.

Turley Publications, Inc. publishes 15 weekly newspapers throughout Western Massachusetts. Visit www.turley.com for more information.

Thursday, March 17

Corey Black, 24, of 225 Poplar St., Feeding Hills, was arrested of two default warrants for shoplifting.

Danny Buteau, 49, of 35 Summit St., West Springfield, was arrested on charges of operating a motor vehicle with license suspended subsequent offense, and failure to stop or yield.

Friday, March 18

Scott W. Haapanen, 52, of 134 Channell Drive, Agawam, was arrested on a default warrant for failure to appear.

Dominic Kenneth Veighey, 21, of 177 Regency Park Drive, Apt. 19, Agawam, was arrested on two default warrants for failure to appear.

Saturday, March 19

Xavier Kenneth Jourdan, 24, of 63 Seymour Ave., Springfield, was arrested on a default warrant for failure to appear.

FIRE LOG

The Agawam Fire Department responded to 68 EMS calls from March 8 to March 14, and the following emergency response calls.

On March 8 at 12:37 p.m., the department responded to Garden Street for lockout.

On March 9 at 10:31 a.m., the department responded to Springfield Street for false alarm or false call, other.

On March 9 at 2:02 p.m., the department responded to Tannery Road for fires in structure other than in a building.

On March 9 at 10:33 p.m., the department responded to Vassar Road for public service assistance, other.

On March 10 at 3:45 p.m., the department responded to White Oaks Drive for lockout.

On March 10 at 8:25 p.m., the department responded to Springfield Street, was dispatched and cancelled en route.

On March 11 at 3:41 p.m., the department responded to Main Street for power line down.

On March 11 at 8:34 p.m., the department responded to Walter Way for alarm system sounded due to malfunction.

On March 12 at 11:13 a.m., the department responded to Shoemaker Lane for outside rubbish, trash or waste fire.

On March 12 at 1:31 p.m., the department responded to Fairview Street for trash or rubbish fire, contained.

On March 12 at 3:35 p.m., the department responded to Meadowbrook Manor for lockout.

On March 12 at 4:40 p.m., the department responded to Meadowbrook Road for outside rubbish, trash or waste fire.

On March 13 at 10:41 a.m., the department responded to Route 5 South for motor vehicle accident with no injuries.

On March 13 at 12:36 p.m., the

department responded to Hamar Drive for good intent call, other.

On March 13 at 3:42 p.m., the department responded to Springfield Street for lockout.

On March 13 at 5:33 p.m., the department responded to Paul Revere Drive for good intent call, other.

On March 13 at 6:59 p.m., the department responded to N. Westfield Street for smoke scare, odor of smoke.

On March 14 at 9:06 a.m., the department responded to Springfield Street for motor vehicle accident with no injuries.

On March 14 at 11:17 a.m., the department responded to Stillbrook Lane, was dispatched and cancelled en route.

On March 14 at 7:54 p.m., the department responded to N. Westfield Street for CO detector activation due to malfunction.

New spot for slices

At right: Among those celebrating the grand opening of Gino's Pizza in Feeding Hills last week were, back row from left, Marc Strange, Agawam planning director, James Medina and Casey Snyder. Front row, from left, Julie Turan, Jeyda Turan, Musa Yauuz, owner Gino Sinan Turan, Mayor Richard Cohen, Kaylin Barrett and Robin Wozniak, executive director of the West of the River Chamber of Commerce.

Below: A grand opening ceremony was held March 18 at Gino's Pizza, 360 N. Westfield St., Feeding Hills. Owner Gino Sinan Turan, center, was joined by Mayor Richard Cohen, left, and state Rep. Nicholas Boldyga for the occasion. SUBMITTED PHOTOS



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GOLF ■ from page 1

has suffered on poor management practices and both called on Mayor Richard Cohen to make changes to the management at the course.

Councilor Richard Theroux countered, saying he does not believe the loss of business in recent years is the fault of management, but instead blamed poor weather. He blamed a recent billing issue to a bill being sent to the wrong location and said the city auditor, employed by the council, needed to keep better track.

Theroux said the course needed the \$62,000 in funds to open up for the 2016 season and have the opportunity to be profitable and make its budget for fiscal 2016.

"If not, we would be setting the course up to fail," said Theroux.

Councilor Robert Rossi, who now chairs the Ad Hoc Golf Subcommittee, says he recommended the council approve the funds for the course, but says

this has to be the last time. "I know this fund transfer is difficult to swallow," said Rossi. "But if they [the golf course] fails, then they fail at their own peril. There will be no more money to give."

Councilor Don Rheault, who has also been critical of the golf course, even saying it needs to close, agreed with Johnson and said he can no longer support the golf course because of how much taxpayer money that has gone into the course, with very little coming back.

"It's supposed to be a self-sustaining enterprise," said Rheault.

Rheault, Johnson and Letellier voted against the funding transfer and said they would refuse to support any more funds going into the golf course.

The majority of the councilors said the course must receive the funds so it can begin operations.

Theroux also called for the town administration to make the golf course a budgeted town department instead of a self-sustaining enterprise fund.

Youth



Agawam's Rosie Robotics took top honors for the first time in its 15 seasons at a tournament held earlier this month at WPI. SUBMITTED PHOTO

AHS robotics team wins 1st-ever FIRST tourney

WORCESTER — Rosie Robotics, the Agawam High School FIRST Robotics team, won its first-ever official sanctioned tournament the weekend of March 12-13 at Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Founded in 2002, Rosie has competed for 15 seasons with many awards for team performance, tournament wins at postseason events hosted by other teams, but never has won an official FIRST sanctioned tournament until now. The win garnered the team a total of 59 points, placing it 19th out of 182 teams in the New England District. The top 64 teams will qualify for the New England District Championships at the XL Center in Hartford on April 14-16.

Rosie ended the qualification rounds in sixth place on a record of 7-5 with enough ranking points to move into an alliance captain position. Rosie chose to partner with two Connecticut teams — Robo Chiefs from Bolton High School and Buzz from Enrico Fermi High School in Enfield. This alliance marched through the elimination rounds with only two losses, capturing the top spot from the alliance of Shrewsbury and Westborough, Mass., and New Ipswich, N.H.

The team, sponsored by AHS, United Technologies, G&L Tool, MPI, PTC and the Agawam Lions Club, will next compete at the Hartford district event being held at Hartford Pu-

blic High School April 2-3. For more information, visit the team Facebook page or www.agawamrobotics.org.

Over 3,100 teams from across the globe had six weeks to design and build a robot to compete in this year's design challenge. Based on a medieval theme, in FIRST Stronghold, two alliances of three robots each are on a "quest" to breach their opponents' fortifications, weaken their tower with boulders, and capture the opposing tower. Robots score points by breaching opponents' defenses and scoring boulders through goals in the opposing tower. During the final 20 seconds of the quest, robots may surround and scale the opposing tower to capture it.

School Lunch

AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL

Monday, March 28: Chicken bowl, mashed potatoes, seasoned corn, fresh and chilled fruit.
Tuesday, March 29: Cheeseburger with mac sauce, lettuce, tomato, pickles, spiral fries, fresh and chilled fruit.
Wednesday, March 30: Chicken filet wrap with assorted sauce, lettuce, tomato and cheese, side of pasta salad, fresh and chilled fruit.
Thursday, March 31: Fresh assorted calzones, garden salad with light dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.
Friday, April 1: Steak and cheese sub, peppers and onions, French fries, fresh and chilled fruit.

AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL ROBERTA G. DOERING SCHOOL AGAWAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Monday, March 28: Popcorn chicken with dipping sauce, whipped potatoes, seasoned green beans, fresh and chilled fruit.
Tuesday, March 29: Beef nachos, salsa, cheese, lettuce, tomato, refried beans, fresh and chilled fruit.
Wednesday, March 30: Grilled cheese on whole-wheat, tomato soup, whole-grain goldfish

crackers, carrots with low-fat ranch, fresh and chilled fruit.

Thursday, March 31: French bread pizza, salad with light dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

Friday, April 1: Bacon cheeseburger (Junior High and Doering), Fish sticks (elementary), smile fries, celery sticks, fruit, cookie.

AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL BREAKFAST MENU

Monday, March 28: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, cinnamon graham crackers, mozzarella cheese string, juice.
Tuesday, March 29: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted nutri-grain bars, mozzarella cheese string, juice.
Wednesday, March 30: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted muffins, mozzarella cheese string, juice.
Thursday, March 31: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted Trix yogurt, mozzarella cheese string, juice.
Friday, April 1: Pillsbury mini pancakes with syrup for dipping, mozzarella cheese string, 1 percent low-fat milk, juice.

Lioness Club to award medical scholarship

The Agawam Lioness Club is accepting scholarship applications from students interested in pursuing a career in teaching or in the medical

field. Applications are open to high school seniors who are residents of Agawam, will be graduating from public or private school this year, and

planning to attend a two- or four-year college.

Applications are available online at www.agawampublicschools.org.

NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for the Agawam Advertiser News, please email mballway@turley.com.

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YMCA ■ from page 1

said Berg. Its full-year operating deficit in 2015 was \$160,000, Johnson said last month, and Berg said this week that the Agawam Y was projected to make a deficit of \$75,000 to \$100,000 this year. He added that by closing the YMCA in the middle of the year, his organization will save \$15,000 in 2016.

In a prepared statement Tuesday, Berg said the Agawam Y "has been unable to achieve the membership required to sustain itself and is not projected to achieve sustainability in the foreseeable future."

The Agawam Y was a new concept in the region when it opened in October 2014. Unlike a traditional Y — and unlike the other three facilities run by the YMCA of Greater Springfield — it operates in a storefront location, the former Food Mart at 61 Springfield St., Agawam, without a pool or gymnasium. The Agawam Y consists of a workout room and space for meetings, classes and fitness activities. The Y has partnered with Agawam schools to use the gym and pool at Agawam Junior High School for programs.

No chance to save

Although the closing date is more than two months away, Berg said there's no chance that a last-minute membership

drive or fundraiser could keep the Y open.

"The Y is all about filling needs, and the need in the community, from what we've been seeing, is being met by several other wellness and fitness centers," Berg said. "We're not going to be taking new memberships."

Berg said that the Springfield YMCA does not have concrete plans for any other major changes in its operations, which include the downtown YMCA and Dunbar YMCA in Springfield, and the Scantic Valley YMCA in Wilbraham, but he added that the Y "has experienced significant operating deficits in the past couple of years and needs to make difficult decisions in order to meet its mission."

Mineo and Cohen, too, said they didn't think it would be possible to save the Agawam Y. The way that the decision was made and announced, however, throws the town's other partnerships with the YMCA into question, said Cohen.

The YMCA provides lifeguards during open swim times at the AJHS indoor pool, Cohen said, and it recently began running youth basketball programs for the Parks and Recreation Department.

"We have to sit down with the parks and rec. director and reassess all our relationships with the Y," Cohen said. "I'm just so disappointed [in] how it was



The Agawam YMCA, which opened in October 2014, will close this May. FILE PHOTO BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY

handled, the lack of sensitivity, the lack of concern for the people who have paid memberships and the people that have been going there for the last 18 months. Their whole motto is about healthy living and community partnerships. I don't feel we've had any community partnerships at all."

"Since September 2015, there has been a discussion of the membership challenges," Berg said this week. "The YMCA of Greater Springfield Board of Directors took significant time to review the situation and render a decision made in the best interest of the

YMCA of Greater Springfield, moving forward. We wish there could have been a different result, and understand there is no perfect way to share news with everyone involved."

Still a need

Cohen pushed hard to bring the YMCA to Agawam, an effort that began long before 2014 with ad hoc committee that identified the need for a community center and spoke with several organizations about building a facility in town. Mineo was also a member of that committee, along with several other local political, civic and business

leaders. The need still exists, both men said.

That might mean a town-owned recreation center, though any new capital spending in Agawam would have to get in line behind several other projects in the works.

"This caught us very off guard," Cohen said. "We'll have to reassess and see what we can do, and how we can do it. We're building a new track facility [at the high school], we're rebuilding the locker rooms, we're doing Walnut Street Extension, we're putting together plans for a new Early Childhood Center. There's only so much we can do with a certain amount of dollars. I'm not looking to overburden our taxpayers."

Most members of the Agawam Y pay on a month-by-month basis and can cancel at any time, Berg said. Those who choose to remain members through to the closing date — the end of May — will be offered three months of free membership at YMCA locations in Springfield, Wilbraham or Westfield. Westfield's Y is run independently and is not part of the Springfield Y organization.

"I will never support another YMCA, with the way they treated us," said Cohen. "When Dunbar was in deep trouble, they all rallied. They didn't rally for Agawam. They look at their bottom line, but they haven't done anything to increase it. How about looking at the faces

of the people who are in there to work out, and the children in there for programming. If I ran the city the way they run the Y, from what I've been able to see, there'd be anarchy."

Mineo noted that for more than half a year after the departure of former Springfield Y CEO Kirk Ray Smith, there was no executive director based at the Agawam location. Andrew Melendez, who fulfilled that role when the Agawam Y opened, was moved into another role in the organization during the seven to eight months before Berg was hired in January to replace Smith as CEO. Melendez returned to Agawam as executive director earlier this year.

Berg said that another staff member, based in Springfield, took responsibility for the Agawam Y during the second half of 2015, but Mineo said there was no direction at the local level.

"There was really nobody guiding the ship over in Agawam, other than community volunteers," Mineo said. "There was no leadership whatsoever."

In that context — and given that the Agawam Y was still a newcomer in town — Mineo said it was "a little premature" to call the Y's business model a failure.

"To have a year and a half to have 500 members, I have to say, that's not bad for a small facility," Mineo said.

Youth

AHS junior awarded anti-bullying grant

EAST LONGMEADOW — Justin Comtois of Agawam was one of three Western Massachusetts high school students to receive the first round of Unify Against Bullying grants, awarded March 14 at Center Square Grill in East Longmeadow. A guidance counselor and educator from elsewhere in the region were also awarded grants.

Comtois, a student at Agawam High School, is studying fashion and hopes to have some of his designs modeled in this year's Unify Against Bullying Fashion Show on April 8. He plans to use his \$250 grant to help fund an emotional and moving short film as part of the video club at school.

The film will focus on the negative effects of bullying and the positive outcomes that can happen when bullying is stopped.

The funds for these programs were raised by an annual fashion show held by Robert Charles Photography. One-hundred percent of the proceeds from the event benefit Unify Against Bullying, a newly established 501(c)3 nonprofit which distributes grants to adults and children who want to bring an end to bullying.

The 2016 fashion show is scheduled to take place on April 8 at the Log Cabin, 500 Easthampton Road, Holyoke. To purchase tickets and learn more, visit www.repUNIFY.com



Holding checks are the recipients of the first Unify Against Bullying grants, from left, Patrick Ireland, Taylor White, Mitchell Knowles, Justin Comtois of Agawam, and Matt Walting. In the back row are Susanna and Edward Zemba, founders of Unify Against Bullying and employees at Robert Charles Photography. SUBMITTED PHOTO



Agawam's high school band and flag corps march near the start of the parade in Holyoke. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY DAVID MILES



Agawam High School was awarded after the parade for having the top high school flag corps in the Holyoke St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 20. AHS also took top honors among majorettes. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY



The band marches between songs on Northampton Street in Holyoke. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MANON MIRABELLI



The Agawam Marching Mohawks play "The Rakes of Mallow" on Beech Street in Holyoke during the parade. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY

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Agawam Parade Marshal John McCarthy. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MANON MIRABELLI



Mayor Richard Cohen waves to the crowd. Behind him are School Committee member Carmino Mineo and a Shriners clown. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MANON MIRABELLI



Agawam Colleen Elizabeth Caracciolo, center, and her court — from left, Julianne Moriarty, Caroline Wysocki, Abaigeal Malouin and Isabel Lamkins — ride "By Hook or By Crook," the Agawam float inspired by Crook Head Lighthouse in Waterford Harbor, Ireland. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MANON MIRABELLI

David Cecchi marches as this year's Citizenship Award winner. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MANON MIRABELLI



Anne Sullivan Award winner Nicole Bertera, center, followed past Agawam Colleen Elizabeth Caracciolo and court members in the marching order. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MANON MIRABELLI



Local officials in the parade included, from left, School Committee member Carmino Mineo, Mayor Richard Cohen, School Committee member Shelley Reed and City Councilor Gina Letellier. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MANON MIRABELLI

Marching in March



Taking a break during the parade are, from left, Agawam Fire Lt. Mike Defilipi and Marc Pereira, and firefighters Jordan Molta, Rob Menard, Mike Bellingham and Bill Kraus. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MANON MIRABELLI

68 years together



Albert F. and Carmella A. (Buoniconti) Lepore, of Feeding Hills, will celebrate their 68th anniversary March 29. The couple met on a tobacco farm and were married in Springfield. Albert, a veteran of World War II who served in the U.S. Coast Guard of the USS Rob-

ert L. Howze, is retired from Hamilton Standard. Carmella was a stay-at-home mom with their two daughters, Patty and Linda. They have one grandson, Thomas; one great-granddaughter, Jessica; and a great-great grandson, Brayden. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Artists to host show and sale at gallery

WESTFIELD — The Artists at the Crossroads will hold its Spring Art Show and Sale Friday, April 1. The event will take place at the Westfield Creative Arts Gallery, 105 Elm St., Westfield, and will kick off with a reception from 6 to 9 p.m. Refreshments and beverages will be served.

The Artists at the Cross-

roads is a group of professional fine artists from the Western Massachusetts and northern Connecticut regions that formed in West Springfield in 2011. They include Sam Dupuis, Jackie Griswold, Janet Miller, Lynn Miller, Sue Newman, Peter Sarno, Donna Shaw and Steve Walbridge.

Info session Tuesday explains running for office

The Agawam Democratic Town Committee will sponsor a program titled "Non-Partisan Informational Session on Running for Political Office" at 6 p.m., Tuesday, March 29. The event will take place in the Garden Room at the Agawam Senior

Center, 954 Main St.

Guestspeakerswillinclude Harold Petrucci from the Massachusetts office of the secretary of state, Jason Tai from the Office of Campaign Finance and Christian Quatrone, chairman of the Agawam Democratic Town

Committee.

Among the topics to be discussed will be roles and responsibilities of state, county and local offices; qualifications to run for office; process required to be on the ballot; campaign finance law; resources for

campaign training and setting up a campaign.

There will be a question and answer time following the presentation. For more information, contact Corinne Wingard at 413-786-9467 or email corinnemarie@comcast.net All are welcome.

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Annual event an 'egg-citing' scramble

By Mike Lydick
aan@turley.com

It took hours for volunteers to fill all 7,000 brightly colored plastic eggs with a piece of chocolate candy and then scatter them across a field at School Street Park. It took less than seven minutes for 550 youngsters of all ages to pluck them up.

When the horn blew last Saturday, signaling the start of the annual Agawam Lions Club Easter egg hunt, kids scrambled to scoop up as many eggs as they could. Once the youngsters in three different age groups (age 4 and under, ages 5-7, and age 8 and older) finished scouring the field, they and their families opened the eggs to get the candy and see if one of their eggs contained the real treasure.

All the eggs were filled with a high-quality chocolate "bunny" candy, covered in a colored foil bunny motif, but inside six eggs was a gold coin. Youngsters who found the gold coin — placed in random eggs in each age group — were the lucky winners of Easter baskets filled with a variety of candy. The baskets were donated by the Agawam Rotary Club.

Before and after the March 19 hunt, the Lions Club served cold drinks, coffee, popcorn, and cookies at the park's pavilion.



It was a mad scramble as kids rushed to pick up thousands of brightly-colored plastic Easter eggs scattered across a field at School Street Park at the annual Agawam Lions Club Easter egg hunt.



Ansen Nooney, 5, holds up the Easter basket he won at the egg hunt. He was one of six lucky youngsters to find an Easter egg with a gold coin inside, winning him a basket filled with candy that was donated by the Agawam Rotary Club.



Children of all ages scurry around a field at School Street Park to scoop up as many plastic Easter eggs as possible. It took Agawam Lions Club volunteers hours to fill the eggs with candy, but just about seven minutes for kids to pluck the eggs scattered across a field.

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While waiting for the hunt to start, Natalie Kilrain, left, and Celia Lynch, both 2, put on some bunny ears to pose for a photo with their parents. In the back, from left, are Sue Kilrain, John Lynch and Megin Flannigan. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MIKE LYDICK



Sharon Crochure helps Cole and Ian Boneu open plastic Easter eggs they had just collected during the Agawam Lions Club's annual Easter egg hunt.



Three-year-old Abby LeMay's basket is half-filled with plastic Easter eggs as she searches for more.

SPORTS

NEW ATHLETIC FACILITY

Ground broken on new athletic facility project



TURLEY PUBLICATIONS STAFF PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Mayor Richard Cohen is joined by class officer from Agawam High School at a ground breaking ceremony held last Thursday morning.

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – Ground has broken on a more than \$9 million athletic facility project that will improve and enhance the fields and locker rooms Agawam High School athletes use.

The project, which started out with an exploratory committee charged with recommending options to improve the dilapidated high school track, morphed into the multi-pronged project that eventually was recommended

by Mayor Richard Cohen and approved by the Agawam City Council.

Lupachino & Sullivan, Inc. of Bloomfield, Conn., was awarded the bid for the project at \$7,950,000. With the contingency funds as well as design fees, the total amount of funding needed for the project is about \$9.2 million.

The town will borrow most of the funds, and the Community Preservation Act approved \$1,035,000 in funds. That spending also was approved by the city council.

Last Thursday morning, the council, members of the school committee, class officers from the high school, and other town officials gathered with the Mayor to hold a ceremonial groundbreaking for the project. Construction crews had started work earlier in the week.

The majority of work that has occurred thus far has included leveling out the football field, tennis courts, and the former varsity baseball field. The bleachers, which were in very poor condition, have been demolished. A

new set of bleachers will take its place. The press box will be refurbished and the signs for the field will be preserved.

At the ceremony, Cohen and Chief Procurement Office Jennifer Bonfiglio said a satellite trainer's room will be included with the supply shed. Bonfiglio, who also worked as a member of the Track Exploratory Committee, said extra room will assist the trainer with quicker treatment of injured players, especially those

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AGAWAM LEGEND

Lou Conte 'grateful' for honor

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – Last Thursday morning, Mayor Richard Cohen announced the new track, which is part of the \$9.2 million athletic facility improvement project, will be named after longtime athletics director Lou Conte.

Conte, who was a major part of the Track Exploratory Committee, has been involved with the Agawam schools as a teacher, administrator, coach, athletics director, and more recently as tournament director in basketball.

When Cohen formed the committee two years ago, he volunteered for the group and led it to include more than just a new track, but improved facilities throughout the high school athletic fields.

Agawam High School has named the scoreboard, multi-purpose field, press box, and gymnasium after former contributors to Agawam sports. Cohen felt it was most appropriate to name the new track for Conte.

Superintendent William Sappelli commented that Conte continuously pushed for the improved facilities.

"He was a huge driving point to why we are here today," said Sappelli. "The track is the only thing that does not have a name. It is very fitting that we name it the Lou Conte Track."

Conte, who attended last Thursday morning's ground breaking ceremony for the project, said he was humbled when the announcement was made.

"It is not something I was looking for or expected," said Conte. "I'm very grateful they want to name the track after me and it's great to see this project happening. I have been asking for better facilities for many years."

Conte, who retired from Agawam High School as Director of Athletics in June 2010, said he loves high school sports and loves his hometown.

"This was and is my home," said Conte. "It is where I was raised and where I raised my children. The kids deserve to have these types of facilities."

He said the track being named for him will be a part of his legacy.

"When you get involved, you always hope to leave a legacy behind," he said. "For some it is trophies, but this is great."

Among his positions, he was the assistant principal at Agawam Middle School and was a physical education teacher at the high school. He spent 19 years coaching the boys and girl varsity basketball teams, and most recently, he was named the coordinator of the Western Massachusetts basketball and baseball tournaments. He has been the tournament director for the past six years.

Marofit breaks record in 41st Road Race

Habtewald sets new mark in women's field

By Nate Rosenthal
Turley Publications
Sports Correspondent

HOLYOKE - It was a sea of green on the streets of Holyoke and that can mean just one thing, St. Patrick's Day. On this brisk Saturday morning and afternoon, people from all over the area turned out to the streets of Holyoke for the 41st Annual Road Race. In fact, the coolness of the air made for a very good day to run for the 5826 who entered the 10K classic.

The winner in record time was Mourad Marofit, of Floral Park, N.Y., who took top honors with a time 28 minutes, 37.7 seconds, well ahead of Haile Tegegn from New York City, who crossed the finish line in 29:16.8. Mourad was third a year ago, when Tegegn

won the race. Mourad broke a record that has stood since 1993, when John Doherty ran it in 28:46. While Marofit averaged 4:36 per mile, his 4:06 on the last downhill sent people to scanning the record books. Mourad competed for Morocco in the 2008 Olympics.

Placing third and fourth were a couple of other New Yorkers, Desta Alemu Mokona, 30:01.1 and Suleman, Abrar Shifa, 30:13.0. Philemon Terer, of Amherst, was the first from Western Mass to finish. His time was 30:38.2. Etalemahu Habtewald, of New York, led the women with a time of 32:50.1. She was 10th overall. Her time broke the record for the second straight year. She finished at 33:09 last year.

Marofit took the early lead off the starting gun. Joining him at



TURLEY PUBLICATIONS STAFF PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

A contingent representing the Massachusetts State Police runs in formation to start the race.

the front were Terer and Shifa. Right behind them was the duo of Tegegn and Mokona. By the time the lead pack had gone 200 yards, they had begun to separate from the field. As they headed past Dwight, the five were bunched together and Mokona moved up second behind Marofit. The order remained that way as the runners

passed Fitzpatrick.

There was a big gap between the front pack and the rest of the field as they moved onto Route 5 and then onto Westfield Road. Soon after they turned onto Roosevelt. With the turns, the other runners were out of sight. The first hill ap-

ROAD RACE | page 14

Chenevert takes fourth at USAG competition



Ruby Chenevert, of Agawam, placed fourth in the 2016 USAG Ma State Championships, which qualified her for the Regional competition in Shrewsbury in May.

AGAWAM - Congratulations to Ruby Chenevert, of Agawam, who is a member of Daggett Gymnastics with the X-Cel Platinum program. Chenevert had a great performance recently competing in the 2016 USAG Ma State Championships

that were held in Hanover. Chenevert placed fourth All Around, giving her a high enough qualifying scores in order to move on to the Regional competition level. The Regional competition is being held in Shrewsbury on May 21.

Rivest pitches in relief for Pride

AUBURNDALE, Fla. - Springfield College freshman pitcher and Agawam resident Cam Rivest pitched six innings of three-hit ball in relief in a 12-6 win over Gallaudet University at the Lake Myrtle Baseball Park on Tuesday evening. He gave up two runs and

struck out seven in his first collegiate pitching outing. His first game appearance occurred two days earlier FDU-Florham. In that contest, he came into the game as a defensive replacement in the bottom of the fifth inning and went 0-for-1 at the plate.

Pioneers 2016 camp dates released

Sign up early to reserve a spot

LUDLOW - The Western Mass Pioneers are pleased to announce their 2016 camp schedule. All camps are held at Lusitano Stadium on the main soccer field, along with its state of the art synthetic turf. Pioneers general manager and camp director Greg Kolodziey said, "We are very excited this year for our camps. We have more week long camps than ever! The experienced coaching staff here will ensure that attendees have a great time learning the great game of soccer while having fun." Camps start June 27 and end Aug. 8. All camps are staffed by Western Mass Pioneers coaches and players. "We have camps for all skill types, along with our Premier Academy week that focuses on developing the skills of serious players," said Pioneers head coach Federico Molinari. "We also have High School Prep

camps for players that will be playing in high school, so they will get an edge on the competition." Visit <http://wmpioneers.com/camps.html> for more information on these Pioneers soccer camps, and you can even register online. Reserve your spot early, these camps will fill up quickly. Western United Pioneers players and members of the Gremio Lusitano club can sign up for a half off discount on the regular price. Please visit [www.wmpioneers.com](http://wmpioneers.com) to view the entire Western Mass Pioneers 2016 schedule. Season passes are also available, you can save money by ordering now. Please continue to visit us at [www.wmpioneers.com](http://wmpioneers.com) and also follow our Facebook and Twitter pages to keep up to date on all the news for about your Western Mass Pioneers.

Shriners Golf Tournament set for June 4

CHICOPEE - The second annual Shriners Hospital for Children Golf Tournament is set for June 4 at Chicopee Country Club. The tournament begins with a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m. The cost is \$100 per person. Cost includes cart, lunch and steak dinner.

Prizes for hole in one, closest to the pin on par 3 and longest drive. The cost to sponsor a hole is \$75, which includes company logo and name. For more information, please contact Jim Adams at 413-627-1122 or Sue Adams at 413-627-1803. Foursomes are going fast.

Local 2016 Boston Marathon runners

BOSTON - The 2016 Boston Marathon is set to take place on Monday, April 18. Share your Boston Marathon story with us by calling Sports Editor Dave Forbes at 413-283-8393 ext. 237 or send an email to dforbes@turley.com.

Listed below are the local runners registered for the race.

NAME	AGE	TOWN
Michael Lescarbeau	45	Agawam
Kevin Pfau	56	Feeding Hills

Summer brochure available online

AGAWAM - The Agawam Parks and Recreation Department summer brochure is now available online. It is available at www.agawam.ma.us.

AAA Falcons Girls Softball signups

REGION - Looking for a few more players from the Springfield/Belchertown/Granby/Chicopee area for 14 and Under team playing in NEYSA Girls Fast Pitch Softball League. Team practices and plays home games at Greenleaf Park Springfield. Please contact softball-coachdpw@gmail.com or call 413-323-5887.



TURLEY PUBLICATIONS STAFF PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Etalemahu Habtewold, the female winner, won for the second straight year and broke her own course record from last year with a time of 32:50.



Maurod Marofit crosses the finish line in first place with a time of 28:37.

ROAD RACE from page 13

proached and it was here that this lead group began to break up. As they went under the Route 91 overpass, Marofit and Mokona started to separate from the other three and then in short order, Marofit started to pull away from Mokona. Passing Schermerhorn's, he had a 20-yard lead, which he kept expanding upon. At the same time, Mokona fell back to the group with Tegegn, Shifa and Terer. By himself, now, Marofit built his lead and maintained it as he passed Holyoke Community College. Marofit won the race with that official time of 28:37.7, more than 30 seconds ahead of Tegegn, third about 100 yards behind Tegegn was Mokona, and right behind him was Shifa in fourth Terer, the first local finisher was fifth. Following Terer, were four more runners from the area. Blake Croteau, of Westfield, 31:28.3, Daniel Sheldon, of Amherst, 32:09.9, Sam Conway, of Wilbraham, 32:21.3 and Benjamin Lasky, of Ludlow, 32:29.8. In 10th overall was the first woman, Habtewold, the defending champion. In the top 50, there were several 15-year-olds, Daniel Nichols, of Danbury, Conn., 17th; Tyler Granja, of Danbury, 33rd and Bill Carroll of Southwick, 41st. On the other end of the spectrum, Robert Landry, 46, of Ludlow was 42nd. Said Marofit after the race, "This was a great day to run. The weather was just cool enough and I felt as though I was getting stronger as I moved along. I felt good on the hills and was able to pull away when I got to them. This was a very enjoyable day." Nate Rosenthal is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at dforbes@turley.com.

FACILITY from page 13

players who have minor injuries. "If a player gets injured now on the multi-purpose field, the trainer has to bring them all the way to the school to receive treatment," said Bonfiglio. "This new room will be located right next to multi-purpose field so players can be treated and return to the field quickly." The improvements include a brand new stadium field with new bleachers, a concession stand, and a multi-purpose artificial turf field that would be used for football, soccer, field hockey, and lacrosse. A brand new all-weather track will surround the new field. Other improvements include new tennis courts and a new outdoor basketball court, new practice fields behind the stadium, and moving the varsity baseball field to the rear of the school.

Inside the school, there will be major improvements to the locker room spaces on both sides of the building, with team rooms and updated locker rooms that will comply with Title IX. Agawam High School has been out of compliance with Title IX for 17 years. Bonfiglio said the substantial completion date is in August and the project should be fully completed by Aug. 26, allowing the varsity football, soccer, and field hockey teams to use the new turf field for home games this fall. Baseball, softball, and lacrosse will be played off campus this spring. Junior Johnny Kelly, who plays soccer and lacrosse, said he's looking forward to having the improved facility for his senior season. "Playing on the new turf is going to be amazing," said Kelly. "We can't wait for this fall."

SUMMER CAMP 2016



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SUMMER CAMP 2016

Things to consider before choosing a summer camp

Though February does not often elicit images of youngsters building campfires or playing games in the pool, the month more synonymous with the Super Bowl and Valentine's Day is a great time for parents to start thinking about summer camps for their kids.

Summer camp is often something kids look forward to, and something they will fondly recall long after they reach adulthood. For many kids, summer camp provides a first taste of independence, as youngsters spend significant time away from home without their parents for the first time in their lives. But as great an experience as summer camp can be for youngsters, it can be just as difficult an experience if parents don't

find the right fit for their children. That's why it behooves parents to start thinking about summer camps for their kids in winter, before camps start filling out their rosters, which tends to happen in early spring. The following are a few things parents should take into consideration when seeking a summer camp for their kids.

Staff

The right summer camp staff can make all the difference. Many children are understandably shy when arriving at a summer camp, as their friends from back home might not be joining them. That can make kids hesitant to participate in activities or less enthusiastic

about those activities. But a good staff will know how to make kids feel welcome, which should help them come out of their shells and make the most of their summer camp experiences. The quality of staffs can vary significantly depending on the camp, so it's important that parents ask camp representatives about their staffs before making any commitments. Ask how long the staff has been together and the types of training new and even veteran staff members undergo before the start of camp season? Does the training include first aid and emergency medical training and certification?

See **CAMP** next page



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SUMMER CAMP 2016

CAMP from previous page

It's also good to ask about the vetting process the camp employs before hiring new staff, including the extent of its background checks. Are criminal background checks conducted? How many references must potential staff members supply to be considered for employment? A good camp will be forthcoming with answers to all of your questions, so eliminate those that appear hesitant to share information about their staffs.

A day in the life

When vetting camps for kids, parents should ask what a typical day is like once the season hits full swing. Many parents want their youngsters to have a

well-rounded experience, while others might want their kids to attend a more specialized camp, whether it's a sports camp focusing on a particular sport or a music camp devoted to helping kids become better musicians. Regardless of the type of camp parents are considering for their kids, they should ask about what daily life at the camp is like. Ask to see schedules and how strictly camps adhere to those schedules. When considering specialized camps, ask the staff representative if kids will have the chance to simply have a little fun and which types of recreational activities are planned to give kids a break from what are often rigorous schedules.

Camp goals

Another thing parents must consider before choosing a summer camp for their kids is the goals of

each individual camp. A camp should be dedicated to ensuring kids have fun, even when kids are attending more specialized camps that tend to be more strict. In addition, parents should look for a camp that wants its attendees to foster relationships with their fellow campers. Camp can be lonely for some youngsters, especially those attending summer camp for the first time, but a summer camp that strives to promote friendship among its campers can reduce, if not eliminate, any feelings of homesickness.

Late winter is when parents should start looking at summer camps for their kids, and there are a host of factors moms and dads should take into consideration during the vetting process to ensure their youngsters have as much fun as possible.



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Tropical Island Week	July 11 - 15	
Game Show Week	July 18 - 22	
Awesome Animal Week	July 25 - 29	
Time Warp Week	August 1 - 5	
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Wild Wilderness Week	August 15 - 18	
Wacky Week	August 22 - 26	

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(Must have completed Kindergarten)
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SUMMER CAMP 2016

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Summer camp options abound

Summer camp is a beloved tradition in many families. Many parents of young children fondly recall spending their summers at summer camp, where they made lifelong friends and learned the finer points of roasting marshmallows and competing in three-legged sack races.

Parents looking for the right summer camp for their kids will soon discover there are various types of summer camps, each offering youngsters something different. The following are some of the summer camp options parents can expect to encounter as they search for the right camper for their kids.

Day camp

Day camps are not overnight camps, which means

kids will return home each night rather than sleep over at camp. Day camps typically offer many of the activities people have come to associate with camps, including crafts, sports and even day-trips to experience local culture or attractions. Many day camps are co-ed, and counselors typically live within the community.

Faith-based camp

Faith-based camps offer many of the same activities as more traditional summer camps, but do so while simultaneously offering campers the opportunity to celebrate and further explore their religious beliefs. Some faith-

See **OPTIONS**, next page



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Dates: Mon.-Fri., July 11-29, 9am-3pm
Cost: \$225 first week; \$600 for all three weeks

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SUMMER CAMP 2016

OPTIONS from previous page

based camps may focus heavily on religion, incorporating faith into daily camp activities, while others may be more subtle with regard to integrating religious beliefs and lessons into camp activities.

Sports camps

Some summer camps focus on a particular sport, catering to young athletes who want to further develop their athletic talents. Sports camps may feature guest lectures and lessons from notable local athletes and coaches,

while some camps may provide instruction from current and/or former professional athletes. Some sports camps are overnight, while others are day camps.

Special needs camps

Parents of children with special needs can still send their kids to summer camp, as there are many camps that cater to such youngsters. Special needs camps may cater to campers who are blind, deaf, learning disabled, or mentally or physically disabled. Staff at special needs camps typically undergoes extensive training, which helps to calm some of the fears parents may have about

leaving their special needs children at camp. Facilities at special needs camps are often built to accommodate the specific needs of campers.



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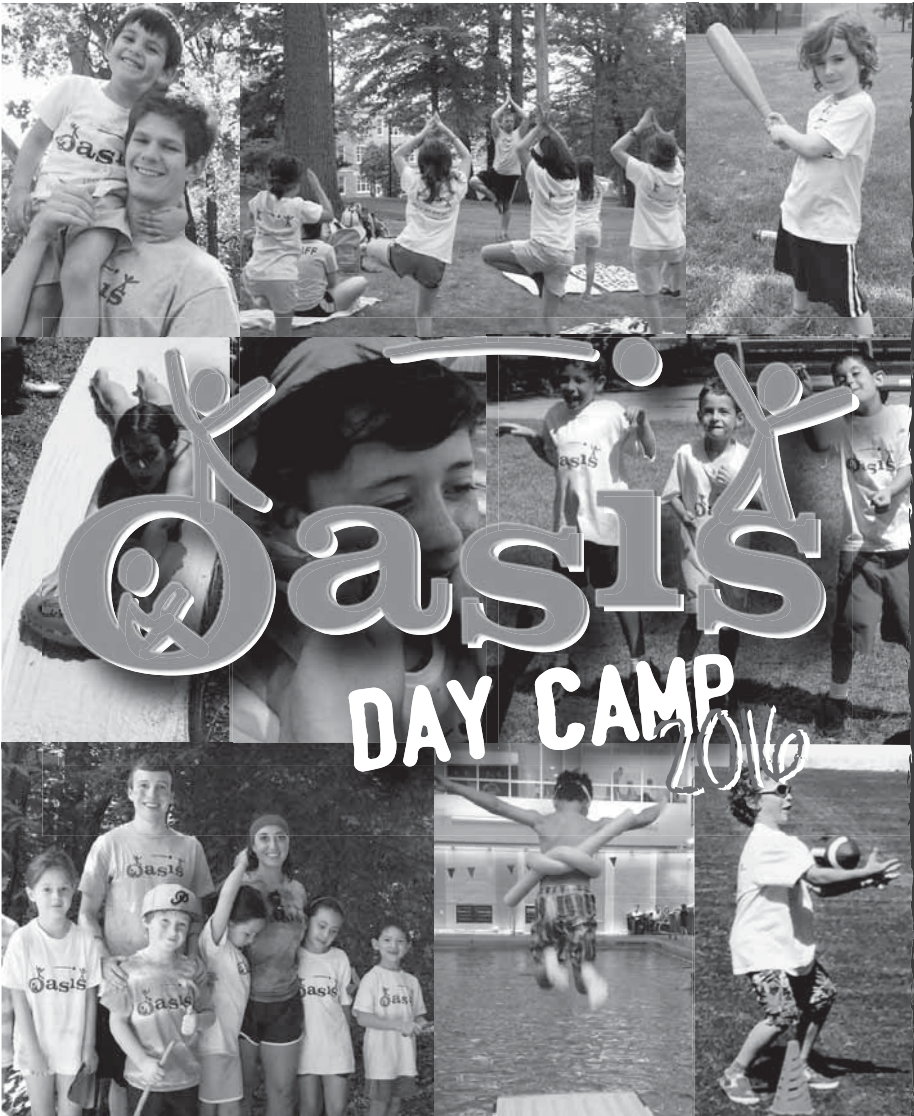
WEEK 1: July 25-28th
Half day (8:30 am - 12:30 pm) Cost \$180
Carpentry, Collision Repair, Cosmetology and Manufacturing
Full day (8:30 am - 3:30 pm) Cost \$225 - Animal Science and Culinary
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Morning Session Only \$135; Both Sessions \$250
8:30 am - 12:30 pm Media in Digital; 12:30 - 3:30 pm Video and Comics

WEEK 2: August 1-4
Half day (8:30 am - 12:30 pm) Cost \$180 - Collision Repair and Manufacturing
Full day (8:30 am - 3:30 pm) Cost \$225 - Animal Science and Culinary

Program Name	Week #1 July 25-28	Week #2 Aug. 1-4	Half Day	Full Day	TOTAL

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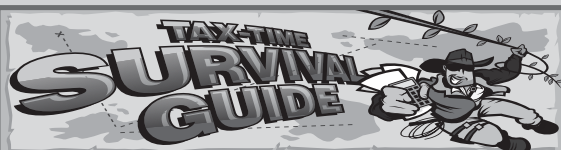
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KLARA IS A pocket sized Pibble mix, 2 years of age. Klara is a perfect average rated girl, perfect for a first time dog owner. Crate trained, walks great on a leash! Ok with other dogs! Located in Worcester, MA, completed application/home visit/\$200 adoption fee.

Applications found at
www.destinysroad
animalrescue.com

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Call Mary at 413-566-3129 or Claire at 413-967-9088 or go to
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HORSEBACK RIDING LESSONS offered year round at our state of the art facility. Beginner to advanced. Ages 4 years to adult. Boarding, sales and leasing also available. Convenient location at Orion Farm in South Hadley. (413)532-9753
www.orionfarm.net

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DRIVERS: QUALITY HOME time! Earn over \$1250+ per wk. + Monthly Bonuses! Excellent Benefits. No-Touch! CDL-A 1yr exp. 888-406-9046

FOSTER CARE: YOU can help change someone's life. Provide a safe home for children and teens who have been abused or neglected. Call Devereux Therapeutic Foster Care at 413-734-2493.

Help Wanted

CLERK - THE Hampden Board of Assessors is accepting applications for assessor's clerk position. This is a 15 hour a week position that requires proficiency in verbal and written communication, computer literacy, dexterity in the operation of office equipment and good interpersonal skills relating to courtesy, tact and discretion. The primary duties include responding to queries from the public relating to various forms, applications, general questions, etc., and maintaining data base files associated with excise taxes, exemptions, abatements, deeds, etc. Applications, which are available in the office, along with a resumé will be accepted in our office between 9:00 AM and 2:00 PM, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. The deadline for filing an application is Friday, April 15, 2016. The Board of Assessors office is located at 625 Main Street, Hampden, MA.

CNA's, PCA's, HHA'S, SIGN ON BONUS

Positions available at Professional Medical Services, Inc.
Highest competitive rates & mileage paid. EOE.
Call Denise. (413)289-9018



Driver/School Van - New openings for PT school van drivers in your area. Starting pay at \$13 per hour with annual raises during the first five years! Earn \$13-\$14 with previous experience. Additional bonuses can increase your average hourly rate up to \$15! 7D license bonus, first time physicals paid! M-F split shift, 4-6 hours a day. Keep van at home. Join Van Pool now by calling David after 9:30 at (413)599-1616. EEO

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FULL TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT - The Building Inspectors of America, of Wilbraham/16 Acres area is seeking a qualified applicant with experience in office duties; answering phones, typing, and scheduling. Must be confident with computers and in customer service. Email resumé: inspectors@buildinginspectors.net.

HAIRDRESSER WANTED: CHICOPEE Salon. 2 years experience. Mass. License required. Some clientele preferred. Good commission paid. Call Carol (413)222-2199.

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Expanding full-service propane company has this opportunity available:

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www.Century21ToomeyLovett.com

413-967-6326
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West Brookfield:
508-867-7064

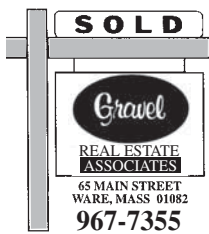
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or intention to make any such
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discrimination." We will not
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advertised are available on an
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For Rent

FOR RENT



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discrimination.

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this newspaper are available on an equal
opportunity basis. To complain about
discrimination call The Department of
Housing and Urban Development "HUD"
toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E.
area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll
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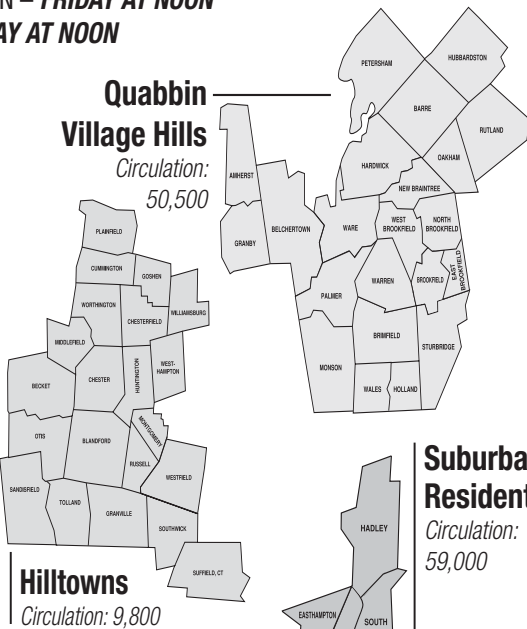
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Out & About

OUR CALENDAR SECTION is intended to promote free events, or those that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization. Paid events that are not deemed benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public for profit are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. The deadline to submit calendar items is Monday at noon. Send to the Agawam Advertiser News at aan@turley.com, fax to 413-786-8457, or mail to 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. We usually print at least one week prior to an event. The listings should be brief with only time, date, location, activity explanation and contact information.

Friday, March 25

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE from noon to 6 p.m. at the Agawam Fire Department, 800 Main St. To make an appointment, download the free Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit redcrossblood.org or call 800-733-2767.

Saturday, March 26

EASTER EGG HUNT at 10 a.m. at Bethany Assembly of God, 580 Main St., Agawam. Each child receives a bag of candy; some eggs have tokens to be redeemed for prizes. The TNT Puppet Team will perform songs and skits.

Friday, April 1

THE ARTISTS AT THE CROSSROADS Spring Art Show and Sale at the Westfield Creative Arts Gallery, 105 Elm St., 6 to 9 p.m. Refreshments and beverages will be served.

NORTH AMERICAN ALPACA SHOW in the Mallary Complex on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. today, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. tomorrow. Free admission.

‘CIAO, PROFESSORE!’ BY LINA WERTMULLER at the Italian Cultural Center of Western Mass., 56 Margaret St., Springfield, as part of its “Friday Night at the Italian Cinema” series.

Doors open at 6 p.m., followed by the movie at 6:30 p.m. Free for ICC members; \$5 donation for non-members.

Sunday, April 3

SPRINGFIELD NATIONAL COLLEGE FAIR in the Young Building on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield today from 1 to 4 p.m., tomorrow from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Free admission.

Friday, April 8

THE AGAWAM CULTURAL COUNCIL will host Rick Spencer, internationally recognized folk singer, songwriter, and historian best known for his series of theme-based historical music programs, beginning at 7 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library as part of the its popular Applause Series. It is free and open to the public.

SPRING FLING DOG SHOW & OBEDIENCE TRIAL in the Better Living Center on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission.

Saturday, April 9

THESUFFIELDBAPTISTCHURCH, 100 N. Main St., Suffield, will host its “Handbell Choir & Friends” concert at 3 p.m. An opportunity to donate to a free will offering to support the Music Ministry will be available. For more information, contact the church office at 860-668-1661, or email office@secondbaptistsuffield.org.

TROY KENNEL CLUB DOG SHOW in the Better Living Center on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free admission.

Sunday, April 10

THE WEST SPRINGFIELD COIN CLUB will meet at 7 p.m. in the Church of the Good Shepherd, 214 Elm St., West Springfield. A special coin topic will be presented and discussed. Refreshments available. Guests wel-

come. For more information, call Peter Setian at 413-596-9871.

TRAP FALLS KENNEL CLUB DOG SHOW in the Better Living Center on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Free admission.

Wednesday, April 13

AGAWAM ADDICTION FORUM at the Roberta G. Doering School Auditorium, 68 Main St., Agawam. Open house from 6 to 7 p.m. followed by the forum from 7 to 9 p.m. will include specialists, professionals and speakers. Featured guests will include Tracy Wilkie of the Shane Foundation and Kristin Trauschke of Agawam Against Addiction. For more information, visit [Facebook.com/groups/Agawam-AgainstAddiction](https://facebook.com/groups/Agawam-AgainstAddiction).

THE ELM-BELCHER MASONIC LODGE, 53 River St., Agawam offers an all-you-can-eat spaghetti supper at a cost of \$8 for adults, \$4 for children. The public is welcome.

Thursday, April 14

J. POLEP DISTRIBUTION SERVICES TRADE SHOW in the Better Living Center on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. No charge.

THE LIFE RAFT DEBATE, an opportunity to hear STCC professors and deans debate the merits of their particular disciplines, is open to the public at 9:30 a.m. at Scibelli Hall at STCC, One Armory Square, Springfield. It is part of the school’s free Ovation series. For more information, call 413-755-4233 or email pcodonoghue@stcc.edu.

Friday, April 15

NORTHEAST REINING HORSE SHOW in the Coliseum on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Free admission.

Agawam Senior Center

Lunch Menu

Monday, March 28: Pepper steak, mashed potatoes, peas and carrots, pears.

Tuesday, March 29: Linguine and red clam sauce, tomato and cucumber salad, baked good.

Wednesday, March 30: Vegetarian soup, crabmeat quiche, Tater Tots, peaches.

Thursday, March 31: Barbeque chicken, potato salad, corn on the cob, applesauce.

Friday, April 1: Potato-crusted baked fish, scalloped potatoes, dilled carrots, pudding.

Calendar of Events

Monday, March 28: 8 a.m., weight training; 8:15 a.m., yoga; 9 a.m., Painting Club; 9:30 a.m., line dancing; 11:30 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 1 p.m., bingo; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold.

Tuesday, March 29: 9 a.m., exercise, knitting class, sewing class; 10 a.m., chair exercise; 12:30 p.m., mah jongg, movie (“Easter Parade”), ladies billiards; 1 p.m., Mexican Train Game; 6 p.m., beginner line dance, evening sewing, art class with Barbara Cohen.

Wednesday, March 30: 8 a.m., weight training; 8:15 a.m., yoga; 9:45 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 12:30 p.m., bridge; 1-3 p.m., line dance jamboree (\$5); 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold; 6:30 p.m., Turnverein chorus.

Thursday, March 31: 8:30 a.m., AARP tax assistance; 9 a.m., exercise, 9:30 a.m., quilting; 10 a.m., line dancing; 12:30 p.m., bridge; 1 p.m., pitch; 1:30 p.m., Melody Band practice; 4:15 p.m., Pilates; 6:30 p.m., evening pitch, evening line dancing.

Friday, April 1: 8 a.m., yoga; 9:15 a.m., all media art class; 10 a.m., tai chi; noon, canasta; 1 p.m., pitch, cribbage; 4 p.m., poker.

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Church Directory

AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

745 Main St., Agawam
786-7111
Pastor: Rev. Greg E. Dawson
office@AgawamCong.com
www.agawamcongregationalchurch.com

SUNDAY SERVICES at 10 a.m.
Communion on the first Sunday of the month
Church school is in session and fellowship coffee hour follows the service.
“A place to call home ~ A people to call family”

AGAWAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

459 Mill St., Feeding Hills
413-786-4174
Pastor: Ken Blanchard
email.agawamumc@gmail.com
www.agawamworship.org

WORSHIP SERVICES
Sunday 10 a.m.
Holy Communion served 1st and 3rd Sundays.
Coffee hour after worship; Bible Study after fellowship.
Prepare Meal for Samaritan Inn Homeless Shelter 2nd Saturdays 2-5 p.m.
Offsite Worship:
Heritage East, 1st Mondays, 11 a.m.
Heritage North, 1st Tuesdays, 11 a.m.
Heritage Woods, 1st Mondays, 11 a.m.
Country Estates, 2nd and 5th Thursdays, 11 a.m.

BETHANY ASSEMBLY OF GOD

580 Main St., Agawam
(413) 789-2930
www.bethany-ag.org
Senior Pastor: Rev. Richard E. Adams

WORSHIP SERVICES
Sunday 9am & 10:45am
Christian Education offered during both services.
Nightlife Contemporary Service: Sunday 6 p.m.
Wednesday Family Night: 7 p.m.

CHURCH OF REDEMPTION

50 Maple St., Agawam
(413) 304-2313
churchor.org

WORSHIP SERVICES
Sunday Services, 10 a.m.
Sunday school for children and nursery for younger children
Community Night: The first Sunday of each month at 5 p.m. Free dinner served.

FAITH BIBLE CHURCH

370 Shoemaker Lane
Agawam
(413) 786-1681
jesussaves.7@comcast.net
Church Website: www.faithbible-church.org
Pastor: Rick Donofrio

SERVICES
Sunday School for all ages 9:30 a.m.
Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Night Prayer
Meeting and Bible Study - 6:30 p.m.

FEEDING HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UCC

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21 N. Westfield St., Feeding Hills
P.O. Box 264
(413) 786-5061
fhccucc@comcast.net
Pastor: The Rev. Robert C. Donaldson

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP
Church School 10:15 a.m.
Worship Service 10 a.m.
Infant and child care provided.
Handicap accessible.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF AGAWAM

760 Main St., Agawam
churchedie@comcast.net
www.firstbaptistagawam.org
Pastor: Rev. George Thomson

SUNDAY SERVICES
Worship 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School (grades K - 5) following Children’s Message until 10:45
Youth Group meets at 11 a.m.
Coffee & Conversation following worship service

HOPE COMMUNITY CHURCH

152 South Westfield St.
Feeding Hills
789-2026

SUNDAY SERVICES
Men’s & Women’s Bible Study Groups and Children’s Sunday School Worship Service at 10 a.m. Children’s Church for age 3 to high school takes place after the service.
Nursery available for younger children. A time for fellowship after the service.

LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

522 Springfield Street
Feeding Hills, MA 01030
413-821-0937
Senior Elders Bob and Barbara Olmstead
Email: office@lighthousema.com
Web: www.lighthousema.com

WORSHIP SERVICE
Saturday evening Celebration at 6 to 8 PM

Saturday evening Prayer from 5 – 5:45 PM
1-hour classes for children ages 3 to 12 during service
Nursery available for younger children
SMALL GROUP MEETINGS in homes during the week
(call or see website for more information)

MARANATHA BAPTIST CHURCH

522 Springfield St., Feeding Hills
Feeding Hills, MA
478-9484
David L. Short, Pastor

Sunday Family Bible Study Hour, 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Morning Service, 11 a.m.
Sunday Night Service, 6 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer, 7 p.m.

SACRED HEART CHURCH

1103 Springfield St., Feeding Hills
(413) 786-8200
www.SacredHeartFeedingHills.org
Fr. Steven Amo

WEEKLY SERVICES

Lord’s Day Masses: Saturday, 4 p.m.; Sunday, 7:15 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m.
Confessions: Saturdays, 3:15 p.m.
Weekday Masses: Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m.
Special Devotions: Perpetual Novena to the Sacred Heart following the Friday 9 a.m. Mass

ST. DAVID’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Rector: The Rev. Dr. Harvey Hill
699 Springfield St.
Feeding Hills
(413) 786-6133
saintdavid@comcast.net
www.stdavidsagawam.org

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES
Sunday 8 a.m. Rite I and Holy Eucharist
10 a.m. Rite II and Holy Eucharist
Sunday school and Nursery during 10 a.m. service
Coffee hour following the 10 a.m. service
Handicap Accessible

OFFSITE WORSHIP

Church without Walls, 2nd Sunday of the month at 12 p.m. at Parish Pantry, West Springfield
Holy Eucharist and distribution of bag lunches

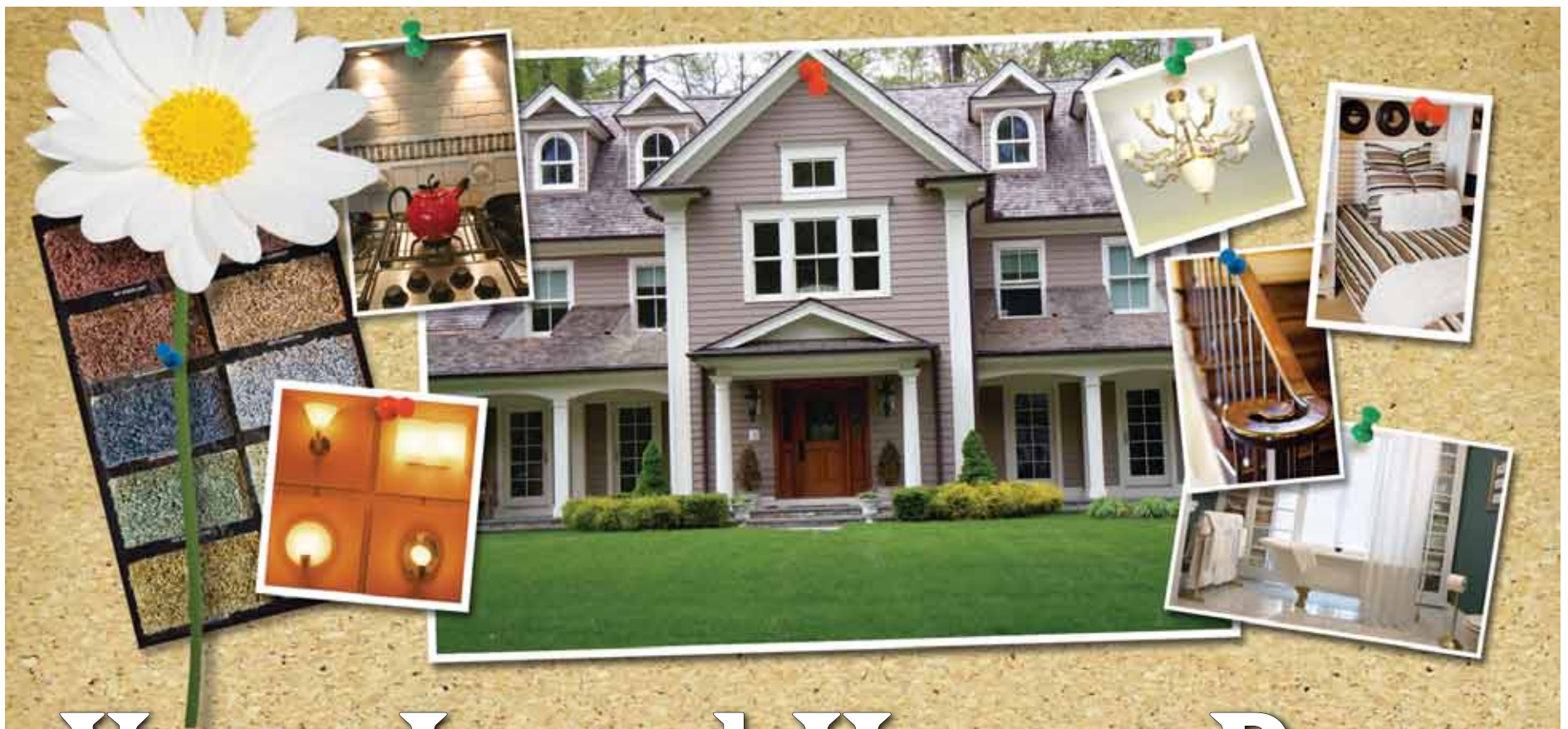
ST. JOHN’S CHURCH

Fr. Brian McGrath, Pastor
823 Main St., Agawam
786-8105
office@stjohnagawam.org
www.stjohnagawam.org

SCHEDULE OF MASSES
Saturdays: 4 p.m. (English), 6 p.m. (Extraordinary Latin Rite)

Sundays: 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
Weekdays: Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m.
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Wednesdays, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
CONFESSION: Saturdays: 3 to 3:45 p.m., or by appointment.





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